

want to show the number of employees, including nonpermanent employees, that are employed by the department for data entry purposes and we want that number to drop. We want to see a decrease in that number and we want to see a decrease in the costs and the expenses of this program. So I hope that you will support the committee amendments and indeed support LB 841.

SENATOR CROSBY PRESIDING

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Senator Pirsch. Senator Hohenstein, on the committee amendment.

SENATOR HOHENSTEIN: Thank you, Madam Chair, members of the body, I rise in opposition to the committee amendments although I understand perfectly the argument that they made and I also understand very well the arguments that the counties make about these sorts of mandates and even more clearly understand the problems with the 814 project. I guess I think that however you have to accept the original mandate date of January 1, 1955, we will know, frankly, next year or maybe even later this year whether that date is going to be plausible or not and will have an opportunity next year if necessary to extend it. I know that since the first of this year, and I almost hesitate to admit this, but in the 814 project there have been at least three separate major delays in that project and I think that maybe has made the counties extremely nervous about mandating specific on line operations by January 1st, 1995 and I understand that concern. Clearly, it would not be the intent of this body nor I think the appropriate action to mandate it today at a certain date and then never look back. Frankly, we have to make sure this project is ongoing and operative and the Appropriations Committee has a bill I think maybe on Select File that finally gives some specific direction hopefully to the entire project, put somebody in charge of the project which has not been the case in the past and they are working closely with the county officials and I know Jack Mills has also been closely involved in this, along with other people. I guess I think if we don't...this is sort of like 421 one-call. The only way it is going to work is if everybody is on and you know you gave about 18 months for one-call and you think maybe that is going to be enough although there is a lot of people out there who will say that's not enough time. We maybe need two years or three years. You really don't know, and, frankly, if one-call wasn't going to work and you came back next year and you saw there was a lot of problems, you might want to extend that a year or two, I don't